

# **City of Fresno**

*2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
[www.fresno.gov](http://www.fresno.gov)*



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020**

**9:00 AM**

**Budget Hearings will take place on: June 9th, 11th, 15th, 16th and  
June 22, 2020.  
Electronic Meeting**

## **City Council**

***President - Miguel Angel Arias***

***Vice President - Paul Caprioglio***

***Councilmembers:***

***Esmeralda Z. Soria, Mike Karbassi, Luis Chavez, Garry Bredefeld,***

***Nelson Esparza***

***City Manager - Wilma Quan***

***City Attorney - Douglas T. Sloan***

***City Clerk - Yvonne Spence, MMC***

City Council met in Budget Hearings session, City Hall on the date and time written above.

**9:10 A.M. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 7 - President Miguel Angel Arias  
Vice President Paul Caprioglio  
Councilmember Esmeralda Z. Soria  
Councilmember Mike Karbassi  
Councilmember Luis Chavez  
Councilmember Garry Bredefeld  
Councilmember Nelson Esparza

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020 - 9:00 A.M.**

[ID](#) Mayor's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Presentation  
[20-00726](#)

*Mayor Brand presented the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.*

[ID](#) General Fund Overview by Budget and Management Studies Division  
[20-00727](#)

*Assistant City Manager Sumpter presented a brief overview of the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 the City Council.*

*Discussion was held between Councilmembers and Assistant City Manager Sumpter and the following directions and motions were made:*

*Councilmember Soria directed staff to provide Council with more details of the three major changes to the General Fund for, 1) Resolution No. 2020-029 adopted February 13, 2020 regarding the 14th Amendment to the Annual Appropriation Resolution (AAR) in the amount of \$6,603,400 for operating programs in capital improvements citywide, 2) Resolution No. 2019-251 adopted December 12, 2019 regarding the 23rd Amendment to the Annual Appropriation Resolution (AAR) in the amount of \$25,000 as funding support towards the Hmong Cultural New Year Celebration, and 3) Resolution No. 2020-070 adopted March 25, 2020 regarding the 41st Amendment to the Annual Appropriation Resolution (AAR) in the amount of*

*\$750,000 for the emergency relief funding for small businesses.*

*Councilmember Soria asked if the small businesses program could be reimbursed and converted into a CARES Act program as opposed to a General Funds program. Assistant City Manager Sumpter replied yes.*

*Councilmember Soria motioned to change the 41st Amendment to the Annual Appropriation Resolution No. 2020-070 in the amount of \$750,000 for small businesses program from General Funds to a small business grant program using CARES Act funds. Council President Arias seconded the motion.*

*Councilmember Soria directed staff to provide Council with a detailed memo regarding what expenses are being made with the CARES Act dollars for Airports and Department of Transportation (FAX) and if the small businesses at Airports are eligible for the CARES Act dollars.*

*Councilmember Soria directed the Administration to look into the consultant contracts citywide to determine which ones are needed before considering any impacts on City of Fresno employees.*

*Council Vice President Caprioglio requested the Administration provide more details on the budget.*

*Councilmember Bredefeld asked if and what percent of the Fresno Police Department's salary can be eligible for reimbursement for the CARES Act. Assistant City Manager Sumpter and Mayor Brand responded.*

*Councilmember Chavez asked for full transparency and an understanding of what the deficit is, the options that Council will consider given the resources the Council will have at their disposal to include the General Fund, the CARES Act funds, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement. He does not agree with the proposed continuing resolution of the budget without explaining to the public what the options are and asked for information regarding the \$90 million received for the COVID-19 spending plan.*

*Councilmember Esparza spoke regarding the proposed continuing resolution and asked about the projected deficit and what portion of the \$7 million is being rolled over into the following Fiscal Year. He also spoke regarding the potential continuing deficit that will impact the City of Fresno in the next Fiscal Year.*

*Councilmember Esparza asked the Administration if there will be a potential 10% cut across the board. Assistant City Manager Sumpter stated it would only be for the General Fund and Internal Services Funds. He spoke regarding the useful ways to use CARES Act dollars and that the money must be spent no later than December 31, 2020.*

*Council President Arias asked the Administration to provide Council with the following information for all departments presenting a budget proposal: A list of Consultants contract, a list of special services contractors and contracts, the number of vacancies in each department, the amount of overtime, the amount of the Department's reserve budget, the amount of the general reserve fund, items that have not and will not be executed from last years budget, the amount of COVID-19 work to date by each department, upcoming salary increases and the amount by unit and the 10% reduction plan if COVID-19 dollars are not available for revenue replacement.*

*Council President Arias motioned to eliminate all consultants and service contracts Citywide including the enterprise departments. Councilmember Soria seconded the motion.*

*Council President Arias motioned that there be no changes to budget line items without Council approval. Councilmember Soria seconded the motion.*

*Council President Arias would like the Administration to reevaluate and bring the following information to Council before getting to the items outlined in the continuing resolution: He would like to discuss consultant contracts, hiring freeze instead of limiting hiring, look at overtime in departments, restructure departments and what management is needed before discussing furloughs, he would like clarity on the County of Fresno Tax Sharing Agreement, to reevaluate Amazon, Ulta and GAP under the current agreement and assess if the agreements need to be reevaluated,*

*and to look at the pension system for the City of Fresno before reducing public services.*

*Councilmember Soria requested a copy of the State's website showing May Sales Tax allocation information and for a comparison of revenues and expenditures to date with a comparison from to date and around the same time last year.*

*Councilmember Karbassi discussed the main responsibilities of the City of Fresno to provide the best quality of service during COVID-19 and asked that should the public safety employees have to furlough, so should Council and their staff.*

*Upon call, the following member of the public addressed Council: Carolina Garza De Luna, Shayna Rose, Lisa Flores, Michael Kreins, Mitchem Callahan, Elisabeth Robeledo, Ivanka Saunders, Zach Baroni, Cesar Casamayor, Matthew Woodward, Kimberly McCoy, Rosalie Baptista, D'Aungillique Jackson, Alexandria Ramos-O'Casey and Gary Hunt.*

*Councilmember Esparza requested the Administration consolidate as much information regarding the Police Department line item budget for Monday, June 15, 2020 presentation for the public's understanding.*

*Council President Arias requested the Administration separate the Police Department's budget from the rest of the line item budget and posted online for members of the public to access the information easily.*

*Councilmember Soria stated she would like the Homeless Taskforce to be restructured and remove Police Officers from the taskforce and consider other options.*

*Councilmember Soria motioned to not use Police Officers to staff the Homeless Taskforce. Council President Arias seconded the motion.*

*Councilmember Bredefeld addressed the purpose of the Homeless Taskforce and does not support removing Police Officers from the Taskforce.*

*Councilmember Esparza requested more information on the Homeless Taskforce and what percentage is Police Officers and what percentage is community members.*

*Council President Arias requested the Administration provide the Council with a presentation on the Homeless Taskforce.*

[ID](#) City Attorney's Office  
[20-00741](#)

*City Attorney Sloan presented the City Attorney's Budget to Council. Upon call, there was no public comment.*

*Councilmember Esparza asked City Attorney Sloan how much Code Enforcement has billed towards CARES Act dollars reinforcing COVID-19 related orders. City Attorney Sloan stated about \$650,000 since March.*

*Councilmember Soria spoke regarding the \$250,000 that was transferred to the small business grant and if it will be reimbursed by the CARES Act reducing the gap of \$7 million deficit for the remaining Fiscal Year. Councilmember Soria requested departments prepare a budget presentation identifying where savings can be addressed.*

*Councilmember Bredefeld asked City Attorney Sloan what the estimated total fines is for businesses violating the masks and social distancing order. City Attorney Sloan stated about \$60,000 total. Councilmember Bredefeld asked how much of the \$60,000 has been collected and spoke against wearing masks and shutting down businesses during COVID-19.*

*Councilmember Karbassi does not want Code Enforcement enforcing District 2 to wear masks and directed City Attorney the latitude to evaluate the fines and the discretion to determine which ones are non-flagrant and assess whether to remove those fines.*

*Council Vice President Caprioglio agreed he also does not want Code Enforcement enforcing District 4 to wear masks.*

*Council President Arias requested City Attorney Sloan to prepare a recommendation to the Council on how much COVID-19 work the City Attorney's Office has done to date.*

*Council President Arias motioned to set aside \$100,000 towards community policing research and support work. Councilmember Soria seconded the motion.*

[ID](#) City Clerk's Office  
[20-00742](#)

*City Clerk Spence presented the City Clerk's Office Budget to Council. Upon call, the following members of the public addressed Council: Lisa Flores, David Taub and Cesar Casamayor.*

*Councilmember Soria request for the City Attorney's office to find out if COVID-19 related expenditures such as overtime, special meetings, and City Clerk's time are reimbursable by CARES ACT.*

*Council President Arias motioned to fund the City Clerk's requests for the Microfilm/Digitizing in the amount of \$45,000 (one time cost) and ADA Accessibility Compliant Doors in the City Clerk's office in the amount of \$7,000 (one time cost) with costs savings.*

**City Council recessed for lunch at 12:25 P.M. and returned from lunch at 1:36 P.M.**

*Council President Arias motioned to continue Finance Department, Information Services Department and Fire Department Budget Hearings to Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. to allow staff time to prepare formal presentations with basic and pertinent information, similar to the City Attorney's Office, for the benefit of Council and the Public. The presentations should include what has been spent, where cuts can be made, cost savings to date, and vacant positions. Councilmember Soria seconded the motion.*

*City Council adjourned at 1:44 P.M.*

[ID](#) Finance Department  
[20-00732](#)

*The above item was continued to June 11, 2020 at 1:00 P.M.*

[ID](#) Information Services Department  
[20-00737](#)

*The above item was continued to June 11, 2020 at 1:00 P.M.*

[ID](#) Fire Department  
[20-00730](#)

*The above item was continued to June 11, 2020 at 1:00 P.M.*

**eComments and Emails**

[ID](#) eComments and Emails received for June 9, 2020 Budget Hearings  
[20-00867](#)